

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-6 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims call for a gas sensor with a number of parts that are well known in the art. The present invention, however, calls for a separator that is in place in the sensor such that the outer edges of the separator do not contact the inner surface of the outer sleeve of the gas sensor. This limitation, in combination with the other limitations of the independent claim 1, is not disclosed nor deemed obvious in view of the prior art of record. The closest reference that was found that has this limitation is U.S Patent Number 7,340,942 to Matsuo et al. Due to its filing date, however, this is not considered prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RODNEY T. FRANK whose telephone number is (571)272-2193. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron E. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-2208. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. T. F./
Examiner, Art Unit 2856
June 12, 2008
/Hezron Williams/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2856